

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 8 are pending in the above-identified application. Claim 6 was objected to. Claims 1 - 4, 7 and 8 were rejected pursuant to 35 USC 103(a). With this Amendment, Claims 1 - 4 and 6 were amended. Claim 5 has been cancelled. Claims 9 - 13 have been added.

Accordingly, Claims 1- 4 and 6 –13 are at issue.

I. Objection To The Specification

In regard to the Examiner's objection to the specification because of informalities, as illustrated in "In the Specification" section of the present paper, Applicant has substituted the title as follows:

"SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE FOR TESTING SEMICONDUCTORS"

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this title objection be withdrawn.

II. Objection To Claims

The Examiner objected to Claim 6 because of informalities due to antecedent basis. This Claim 6 objection is now moot in view of the amendment to Claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request that this claim objection be withdrawn.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 103 Obviousness Rejection of Claims

Claims 1- 4 and 7 - 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeoka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,734,549).

Claims 5 and 6 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As such, Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the substantive limitations of Claim 5, and conforming to U.S. claim practice. Thus, Claim 1 is allowable, as well as dependent Claims 2 – 4, and 6 – 8.

Moreover, Claims 9 – 13 have been added. New Claim 9 is based on Claim 1 incorporated with the limitations of Claims 5 and 6. Thus, Claim 9 is allowable, as well as dependent Claims 10 – 13.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the claim rejections pursuant to 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

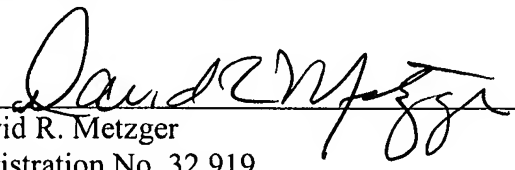
IV. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all claims 1- 4 and 6 – 13 are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully requests early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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